

Amendments to the Specification:

The paragraph starting at page 4, line 28, is amended and now reads as follows:

-- FIG. 15 shows the spring stiffness plotted as a function of the deformation for the plug of FIG. 13; ~~and,~~ --

The paragraph starting at page 4, line 30, is amended and now reads as follows:

-- FIGS. 16 to 23 show variations for the guide in ~~section~~ section; ~~and,~~

FIG. 24 shows a portable handheld work apparatus in plan view from below. --

The paragraph starting at page 6, line 28, is amended and now reads as follows:

-- For fixing the coil spring, for example, in a portable handheld work apparatus 80 (FIG. 24), one ~~end~~ end 5 of the coil ~~spring~~ spring 2 is fixed to a first housing ~~part~~ part 81 and a second ~~end~~ end 6 of the coil ~~spring~~ spring 2 is fixed to a second housing ~~part~~ part 82. For fixing the coil ~~spring~~ spring 2 to the housing parts ~~(not shown)~~ (81, 82) shown in FIG. 24, the plugs (3, 4) each have longitudinal bores 14 which function to accommodate an attachment means. This means can, for example, be a pin (84, 85) projecting into the longitudinal bore 14.

However, it can be practical to provide an internal thread on the inner bore 14 and to threadably engage a screw into a plug 3 or 4 for fixing. The first housing ~~part~~ part 81 can, for example, be a component connected to the drive motor of the work apparatus while the second housing ~~component~~ component 82 can be connected to the ~~handle~~ handle 83 of the work apparatus. --